

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 14 and ending at page 4 , line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

As the result of intensive studies by the present inventors to overcome the above problems, it was found that the decrease in the contrast could be prevented and a liquid crystal display device of the in-plane switching mode exhibiting a wide angle of field with a great contrast could be obtained when a layer of an optically anisotropic member having a negative value of intrinsic birefringence was disposed at a specific position relative to the liquid crystal cell and the polarizers and an optically anisotropic member satisfying the relation $n_z > n_x > n_y$ [~~$n_z > n_y$~~] was disposed at a specific position relative to the liquid crystal cell and the polarizers, wherein the refractive index of the optically anisotropic member in the direction of the in-plane slow axis was represented by n_x , the refractive index in the direction in-plane and perpendicular to the direction of the in-plane slow axis was represented by n_y , and the refractive index in the direction of the thickness was represented by n_z . The present invention has been completed based on the knowledge.

Replace the paragraph at page 27, lines 23-26 with the following amended paragraph:

The change in the reflectance before and after the steel wool test is obtained in accordance with the following equation (1) [~~(1.1)~~]. R^b represents the reflectance before the steel wool test, and R^a represents the reflectance after the steel wool test.

Replace the formula at page 28, line 1 with the following:

$$\Delta R = (R^b - R^a) / R^b \times 100 (\%) \quad (\del{1.1}) \quad \underline{(1)}$$